



## **Nebraska Online Legal Self-Help Center Designed to be User-Friendly**

March 1, 2011

The Nebraska Online Legal Self-Help Web site has a new look and additional features to improve usability. The site's updated graphics and clean layout are designed to help court users access information more quickly and easily.

The Online Legal Self-Help Center is designed to make content and forms simpler to find and use, according to Judge Richard Sievers, Nebraska Supreme Court Pro Se Committee Chairman. "Visitors to the site will find the list of main categories at the top of the home page, which allows for the addition of sub-categories on subsequent pages," said Sievers. He added, "We are grateful for the commitment of the committee members, court staff, and technical assistance of the folks at Nebraska.gov for their hard work in making this redesign happen."

The "When You Can't Afford a Lawyer" section has been redesigned to include referrals to a greater number of low-income legal assistance groups as well as law libraries and law school legal clinics. Links have been added to Nebraska Legal Aid's Web site for their auto-fill Power of Attorney form.

In coming months, additional enhancements will be introduced to improve and expand resources for those in need of legal assistance who lack the resources to hire an attorney. The redesign is intended to ensure that the Web site remains effective and user-friendly.

"The hard and invaluable work of our forms committee, under the direction of Judge Teresa Luther from Grand Island, is nicely showcased through this new site and will be of great benefit to low-income Nebraskans needing access to the legal system," said Sievers. The new Web portal can be readily accessed through the Nebraska Judicial Branch Web site: <http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/self-help/>

### **Court and Library Staff Webinars**

Webinars regarding availability and use of the updated site are being offered for court staff and librarians throughout Nebraska.

On March 7, 2011, the Office of Judicial Branch Education will host a webinar on use of the Judicial Branch Web site, including the new Online Legal Self-Help Center. Court staff may register for the session through the [JBE Web page](#).

On April 6, 2011, The Nebraska Library Commission will host “**Accessing Courts through E-Government, Part 2**” through NCompass Live website at: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/ncompass/ncompasslive.asp>. The session will focus on elements of the new Self-Help Web site.

*The forms and information found on the online self-help center are provided by the Nebraska Supreme Court’s Committee on Implementation of Assistance to Pro Se Litigants as part of the Nebraska Supreme Court’s commitment to ensuring that all Nebraskans have meaningful and full access to the judicial system, including those Nebraskans who represent themselves.*

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